

Comment 18659

**Constellation Wines**

A DIVISION OF CONSTELLATION

June 6, 2005

Dear Members and Interested Persons,

I am writing to invite you to the first meetings of the North American Chapter of the International Wine Law Association ("AIDV").

Two meetings are planned: one on the East Coast, and one on the West Coast. If you can attend one (or both!), that would be excellent.

The topic of discussion will be Notice of Proposed Rulemaking No. 41, recently issued by the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau ("TTB"), concerning Labeling and Advertising of Wines, Distilled Spirits and Malt Beverages. We will discuss the issues raised by the NPR, with the objective of developing consensus comments to send to TTB under the auspices of AIDV. The major issues under consideration include:

- Calorie and carbohydrate claims,
- Petition for "Alcohol Facts" Label and Ingredient Labeling,
- Allergen Labeling,
- Requests for Voluntary "Serving Facts" Labeling, and
- the Composite Label Approach

As lawyers involved in the beverage alcohol trade, it is important that our opinion be heard. Once TTB decides these issues, they will remain with us for years to come. Input from those to be affected by TTB's decisions is important and urgent, as these are the rules by which we and our clients will have to live in the future.

The meetings will be held at the offices of Nixon Peabody LLP in **San Francisco on 27 June 2005, and New York on 11 July 2005**, from 10:00 AM through mid-afternoon. A continental breakfast and a working lunch will be provided.

The new North American chapter is one of many local chapters around the world of the Association Internationale des Juristes du Droit de la Vigne et du Vin, based in Paris. AIDV is a group of almost 400 lawyers involved in the world wine trade from the major – and many smaller – wine-producing regions of the world. While the parent organization deals primarily with global wine issues, local chapters are encouraged to become involved with local, as well as

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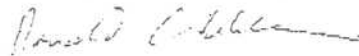
global, regulatory issues affecting the production, marketing and distribution of wine. You can read more about the organization and its activities at its website www.aidv.org.

If you are not yet a member, I urge you to join us. Please come to one of the meetings to participate in the writing of comments, and to meet the group and your colleagues. If you wish to join afterwards, the dues are insignificant, the people bright and interesting, the work important, the networking unparalleled, and the food and wine are outstanding.

We look forward to welcoming you in San Francisco, New York, or at both meetings. Nixon Peabody's NY office is at 437 Madison Avenue (between 49th and 50th Streets) and the San Francisco office is at Two Embarcadero Center, suite 2700.

Please let me know that you will be able to attend by responding to this email, or calling me at 585-396-7631.

Best wishes,



Ronald C. Fondiller